



THE BRAINS BEHIND SAVING YOURS.™

The Honorable Roger Wicker
United States Senate
555 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

September 18, 2015

Dear Senator Wicker:

On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association, thank you for your leadership on issues important to Americans with Alzheimer's and their caregivers. The Alzheimer's Association supports the EUREKA Act and its goal of advancing research breakthroughs for Alzheimer's disease.

The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support, and research. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease and other dementias through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's.

More than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's, and without significant action, as many as 16 million Americans will have Alzheimer's disease by 2050. More than 10,000 baby boomers a day will turn 65 and as these baby boomers age, one in eight will develop Alzheimer's. This explosive growth will cause Alzheimer's costs to Medicare and Medicaid to increase from \$153 billion today to \$1.1 trillion in 2050 (in today's dollars) and threatens to bankrupt families, businesses, and our health care system. Unfortunately, our work is only growing more urgent.

An advance in Alzheimer's research has the potential both to save millions of lives and billions of dollars for the nation's public health programs. With the cooperation of the medical and research communities, we are at a tipping point. We have the ideas, the technology and the will, but we need a focused commitment from the federal government, including robust support for Alzheimer's research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The Alzheimer's Association appreciates your leadership on this important issue. We look forward to working with you to advance this important legislation and reach our broader goal of research breakthroughs that change the lives of patients and families living with Alzheimer's. If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Conant, Director of Federal Affairs, at rconant@alz.org or at 202.638.7121.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Egge". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Robert Egge
Executive Vice President, Government Affairs
Alzheimer's Association